
Joseph Castle, Director of Code.gov
U.S. General Services Administration
“First, what government can properly and successfully do.”

“Secondly, how it can do these proper things with the utmost efficiency and at the least possible cost either of money or of energy.”
Creating (Public) Value

• Focus on the manager w/ instruments for action
• Manager is entrepreneurial, imaginative, innovative
• Public value determined by collective, not individual
• Protection of public interest and efficient delivery
Call to Action

“I want us to ask ourselves every day, how are we using technology to make a real difference in people’s lives.”

– President Barrack Obama, U.S. Digital Strategy
Digital Government
Building a 21st Century Platform to Better Serve the American People

Introduction

“I WANT US TO ASK OURSELVES EVERY DAY, HOW ARE WE USING TECHNOLOGY TO MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLE’S LIVES.”

– President Barack Obama

Mission drives agencies, and the need to deliver better services to customers at a lower cost—whether an agency is supporting the warfighter overseas, a teacher seeking classroom resources or a family figuring out how to pay for college—is pushing every level of government to look for new solutions.

Today’s amazing mix of cloud computing, ever-smarter mobile devices, and collaboration tools is changing the consumer landscape and bleeding into government as both an opportunity and a challenge. New expectations require the Federal Government to be ready to deliver and receive digital information and services anytime, anywhere and on any device. It must do so safely, securely, and with fewer resources. To build for the future, the Federal Government needs a Digital Strategy that embraces the opportunity to innovate more with less, and enables entrepreneurs to better leverage government data to improve the quality of services to the American people.

The Speed of Digital Information

When a 5.9 earthquake hit near Richmond, Virginia on August 23rd, 2011, residents in New York City read about the quake on Twitter feeds 30 seconds before they experienced the quake themselves.

Early mobile adopters in government—like the early web adopters—are beginning to experiment in pursuit of innovation. Some have created products that leverage the unique capabilities of mobile devices. Others have launched programs and strategies and brought personal devices into the workplace. Absent coordination, however, the work is being done in isolated, programmatic silos within agencies.

Building for the future requires us to think beyond programmatic lines. To keep up with the pace of change in technology, we need to securely architect our systems for interoperability and openness from conception. We need to have common standards and more rapidly share the lessons learned by early adopters. We need to produce better content and data, and present it through multiple channels in a program and device-agnostic way. We need to adopt a coordinated approach to ensure privacy and security in a digital age.

These imperatives are not new, but many of the solutions are. We can use modern tools and technologies to seize the digital opportunity and fundamentally change how the Federal Government serves both its internal and external customers – building a 21st century platform to better serve the American People.

The Rapidly Changing Mobile Landscape

- Mobile broadband subscriptions are expected to grow from nearly 1 billion in 2011 to over 5 billion globally in 2016.
- By 2015, more Americans will access the Internet via mobile devices than desktop PCs.
Federal Source Code Policy (FSCP)

- Federal government spends $6B each year on software
- In August 2016, the White House published the FSCP or M-16-21
- Agencies develop source code policy, update acquisition language, and inventory code
- Release at least 20% code as OSS
Federal Source Code (1940 – 2018)

- Grace Hopper’s work at the Harvard Computational Laboratory was a precursor to open source software (OSS)
- U.S. government funded labs using and modifying code
- Academic institutions consisted of “hackers” creating software programs and games
- Federal agencies consume OSS (e.g., Internet, mobile, and web technologies) but publish less
Sharing America's Code

Unlock the tremendous potential of the Federal Government's software.

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or Browse by Agency

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Example Projects
Grazie!